# Michigan Deptartment of Treasury 496 (2-04) Auditing Procedures Report

Issued und	er P.A. 2 of 19	68, as amen	nded.					
Local Gov	ernment Type		] Village   ✓ Other	Local Government Name Fife Lake Area Ut	ility Authority		County Gran	nd Traverse
Audit Date 12/31/0			Opinion Date <b>8/26/05</b>		ountant Report Submi			
accordar	ice with th	e Statem	ents of the Govern	local unit of governmental Accounting States of Government in Mice	andards Board (	GASB) and the	ne <i>Uniform</i>	Reporting Format for
We affire	n that:							
1. We I	nave comp	lied with th	he Bulletin for the Au	idits of Local Units of G	overnment in Mic	chigan as revise	ed.	
2. We a	are certified	d public ac	countants registered	d to practice in Michiga	n.			
We further affirm the following. "Yes" responses have been disclosed in the financial statements, including the notes, or in the report of comments and recommendations								
You must	check the	applicable	e box for each item b	pelow.				
Yes	<b>√</b> No	1. Certa	ain component units/	funds/agencies of the I	ocal unit are exc	uded from the	financial sta	atements.
Yes No 2. There are accumulated deficits in one or more of this unit's unreserved fund balances/retained earnings (P.A 275 of 1980).								
Yes	<b>√</b> No		re are instances of named).	non-compliance with the	he Uniform Acco	ounting and Bu	udgeting Act	(P.A. 2 of 1968, as
Yes	Yes No 4. The local unit has violated the conditions of either an order issued under the Municipal Finance Act or its requirements, or an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act.							
Yes	✓ No		•	osits/investments whic 1], or P.A. 55 of 1982,		,	requiremer	nts. (P.A. 20 of 1943
Yes	✓ No	6. The	local unit has been d	lelinquent in distributing	tax revenues the	at were collecte	ed for anothe	er taxing unit.
Yes	<b>√</b> No	7. pens	sion benefits (normal	red the Constitutional I I costs) in the current y normal cost requirement	year. If the plan	is more than 1	00% funded	d and the overfunding
Yes	<b>✓</b> No		local unit uses cred L 129.241).	dit cards and has not	adopted an app	licable policy a	as required	by P.A. 266 of 1995
Yes	☐ No	9. The	local unit has not add	opted an investment po	licy as required b	oy P.A. 196 of	1997 (MCL 1	129.95).
We have	e enclosed	the follo	wing:			Enclosed	To Be Forward	
The lette	er of comm	ents and r	recommendations.			✓		
Reports	on individu	al federal	financial assistance	programs (program au	dits).			<b>✓</b>
Single Audit Reports (ASLGU).					<b>✓</b>			
Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name)  Baird, Cotter & Bishop, P.C.								
Street Add	<sub>ress</sub> . Harris S	treet			City Cadillac		State MI	ZIP 49601
Accountagt Signature  Date 9/24/05					./05			

# FIFE LAKE AREA UTILITY AUTHORITY FIFE LAKE, MICHIGAN DECEMBER 31, 2004

### ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

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MICHAEL D. COOL, C.P.A.

# Baird, Cotter and Bishop, P.C.

#### CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

August 26, 2005

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners Fife Lake Area Utility Authority Fife Lake, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of Fife Lake Area Utility Authority as of and for the year ended December 31, 2004, as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these basic financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Fife Lake Area Utility Authority as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As described in Note 1, the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority has implemented a new financial reporting model as required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments as of January 1, 2004.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages iii through vi, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of in inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying financial information listed as "Other Information" in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and in our opinion, it is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole except as noted in the preceding paragraph.

BAIRD, COTTER AND BISHOP, P.C.

Baird, Cotter & Bishop, P.C.

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#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

Fife Lake Area Utility Authority, a public municipal authority located in Fife Lake, Michigan, has implemented the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34 (GASB 34). The Management's Discussion and Analysis, a requirement of GASB 34, is intended to be the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority's administration's discussion and analysis of the financial results for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004. In future years, comparative information will be provided.

#### A. Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements, required by GASB 34, are new and being shown for the first time for December 31, 2004 for the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority. These statements are calculated using full accrual accounting and more closely represent those presented by business and industry. The entire Authority's assets and liabilities, both short and long-term, are reported. As such, these statements include capital assets, net of related depreciation.

#### **B.** Summary of Net Assets

The following schedule summarizes the net assets at December 31, 2004:

Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 21,948
Restricted Assets	\$ 178,512
Non Current Assets	_
Capital Assets	\$ 3,441,254
Less Accumulated Depreciation	 2,021,691
Total Non Current Assets	\$ 1,419,563
Total Assets	\$ 1,620,023
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	\$ 28,866
Long-term Liabilities	 280,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 308,866
Net Assets	
Invested in Capital Assets Net of Related Debt	\$ 1,119,563
Restricted for Specific Purposes	178,512
Unrestricted	 13,082
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,311,157
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,620,023

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### C. Analysis of Financial Position

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, the Authority's net assets decreased by \$54,885. A few of the more significant factors affecting net assets during the year are discussed below:

#### 1. Depreciation Expense

The net increase in accumulated depreciation expense is a reduction in net assets.

Depreciation expense is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. In accordance with GAAP, depreciation expense is calculated based on the original cost of the asset less an estimated salvage value, where applicable. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, \$85,782 was recorded for depreciation expense.

#### 2. Capital Outlay Acquisitions

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, no expenditures were capitalized or recorded as assets of the Authority.

The net effect of the new capital assets and the current year's depreciation is a decrease to capital assets in the amount of \$85,782 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004.

#### **D.** Results of Operations

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, the results of operations were:

	Amount	% of Total	
General Revenues Interest and Rents	\$1,322_	.81%	
Program Revenues			
Charges for Services	\$160,961_	99.19%	
Total Revenues	\$162,283_	100.00%	
Expenses	<b>.</b>	100.000	
Utility System	\$ 217,168	100.00%	
Change in Net Assets	\$ (54,885)		

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### E. Analysis of Significant Revenues

Significant revenues are discussed below:

#### **Charges for Services**

The majority of the revenues are comprised of user charges received from Fife Lake Area Utility customers.

#### F. General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Authority is required by its bond ordinance to prepare an annual budget. Formal budgetary control is not imposed under the State of Michigan laws on proprietary fund types.

For the year ended December 31, 2004, the Authority amended the budget in April and July of 2004. The following schedule shows a comparison of the original budget, the final amended budget and actual totals from operations:

					V	ARIANCE	
	ORIGINAL		FINAL		WI	TH FINAL	
	BUDGET	BUDGET		ACTUAL	BUDGET		
Total Revenues	\$ 154,134	\$	154,134	\$ 162,283	\$	8,149	
Total Expenses	154,134		154,134	217,168		(63,034)	

#### G. Capital Asset

#### 1. Capital Assets

At December 31, 2004, the Authority had \$3,441,254 in capital assets, including buildings, investment in the sewer system, machinery and equipment, vehicles, computer and office equipment. Depreciation expense for the year amounted to \$85,782 bringing the accumulated depreciation to \$2,021,691 as of December 31, 2004.

#### H. Contacting the Authority's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Authority's finances and to demonstrate the Authority's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report, please contact the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority, PO Box 219, Fife Lake, MI 49663.

### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

### **DECEMBER 31, 2004**

### **ASSETS**

Cash Accounts Receivable Inventory         6.895 Accounts Receivable Inventory         3.000           Total Current Assets         \$ 21,948           RESTRICTED ASSETS Investments         \$ 178,512           NON CURRENT ASSETS           Capital Assets         \$ 3,441,254           Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS         \$ 1,620,023           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         6,250           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES           Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS           Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Total Current Assets   \$ 21,948		\$	12,053
Total Current Assets         \$ 21,948           RESTRICTED ASSETS           Investments         \$ 178,512           NON CURRENT ASSETS           Capital Assets         \$ 3,441,254           Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS         \$ 1,620,023           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           LIABILITIES           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         \$ 280,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS           Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	Accounts Receivable		,
RESTRICTED ASSETS           Investments         \$ 178,512           NON CURRENT ASSETS         \$ 3,441,254           Capital Assets         \$ 3,441,254           Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS         \$ 1,620,023           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         \$ 280,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	Inventory		3,000
Investments         \$ 178,512           NON CURRENT ASSETS           Capital Assets         \$ 3,441,254           Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS         \$ 1,620,023           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         \$ 280,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         1119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	Total Current Assets	\$	21,948
NON CURRENT ASSETS           Capital Assets         \$ 3,441,254           Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	RESTRICTED ASSETS		
Capital Assets         \$ 3,441,254           Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES           Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS           Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	Investments	\$	178,512
Capital Assets         \$ 3,441,254           Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES           Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS           Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	NON GUDDENT A GGETTG		
Less Accumulated Depreciation         2,021,691           Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS         \$ 1,620,023           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157		Ф	2 441 254
Total Non Current Assets         \$ 1,419,563           TOTAL ASSETS           LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS           LIABILITIES           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES           Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	<del>-</del>		
TOTAL ASSETS   \$ 1,620,023	Less Accumulated Depreciation		2,021,091
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETSLIABILITIESCURRENT LIABILITIESPayroll Withholdings Payable1,616Accrued Interest Payable6,250Customer Deposits Payable1,000Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion20,000Total Current Liabilities\$ 28,866LONG-TERM LIABILITIES Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion280,000Total Liabilities\$ 308,866NET ASSETS Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Restricted for Specific Purposes\$ 1,119,563Restricted for Specific Purposes178,512Unrestricted13,082Total Net Assets\$ 1,311,157	Total Non Current Assets	\$	1,419,563
LIABILITIES           CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         1           Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157	TOTAL ASSETS	\$	1,620,023
CURRENT LIABILITIES           Payroll Withholdings Payable         \$ 1,616           Accrued Interest Payable         6,250           Customer Deposits Payable         1,000           Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion         20,000           Total Current Liabilities         \$ 28,866           LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         \$ 280,000           Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866           NET ASSETS         \$ 1,119,563           Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt         \$ 1,119,563           Restricted for Specific Purposes         178,512           Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157			
Payroll Withholdings Payable       \$ 1,616         Accrued Interest Payable       6,250         Customer Deposits Payable       1,000         Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion       20,000         Total Current Liabilities       \$ 28,866         LONG-TERM LIABILITIES         Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion         Total Liabilities         \$ 308,866          NET ASSETS       \$ 1,119,563         Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt       \$ 1,78,512         Unrestricted       13,082         Total Net Assets       \$ 1,311,157			
Accrued Interest Payable Customer Deposits Payable Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion  Total Current Liabilities  LONG-TERM LIABILITIES Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion  Total Liabilities  Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion  Total Liabilities  NET ASSETS  Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Restricted for Specific Purposes Unrestricted  Total Net Assets  \$ 1,119,563  Restricted for Specific Purposes  Total Net Assets  \$ 1,311,157		_	
Customer Deposits Payable1,000Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion20,000Total Current Liabilities\$ 28,866LONG-TERM LIABILITIESRevenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion280,000Total Liabilities\$ 308,866NET ASSETS\$ 1,119,563Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt\$ 1,119,563Restricted for Specific Purposes178,512Unrestricted13,082Total Net Assets\$ 1,311,157	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$	
Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion 20,000  Total Current Liabilities \$28,866  LONG-TERM LIABILITIES Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion 280,000  Total Liabilities \$308,866  NET ASSETS Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt \$1,119,563 Restricted for Specific Purposes 178,512 Unrestricted 13,082  Total Net Assets \$1,311,157			
Total Current Liabilities \$ 28,866  LONG-TERM LIABILITIES Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion 280,000  Total Liabilities \$ 308,866  NET ASSETS Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt \$ 1,119,563 Restricted for Specific Purposes 178,512 Unrestricted 13,082  Total Net Assets \$ 1,311,157			
LONG-TERM LIABILITIESRevenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion280,000Total Liabilities\$ 308,866NET ASSETSInvested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt\$ 1,119,563Restricted for Specific Purposes178,512Unrestricted13,082Total Net Assets\$ 1,311,157	Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion		20,000
Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion  Total Liabilities  Sample - Net of Current Portion  Total Liabilities  NET ASSETS  Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Restricted for Specific Purposes Unrestricted  Total Net Assets  \$ 1,119,563 178,512 13,082	Total Current Liabilities	\$	28,866
Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion  Total Liabilities  Sample - Net of Current Portion  Total Liabilities  NET ASSETS  Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Restricted for Specific Purposes Unrestricted  Total Net Assets  \$ 1,119,563 178,512 13,082	LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
Total Liabilities \$ 308,866  NET ASSETS Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt \$ 1,119,563 Restricted for Specific Purposes 178,512 Unrestricted 13,082  Total Net Assets \$ 1,311,157			280,000
NET ASSETS Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Restricted for Specific Purposes Unrestricted  Total Net Assets  \$ 1,119,563 178,512 13,082			<u> </u>
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Restricted for Specific Purposes Unrestricted  Total Net Assets  \$ 1,119,563 178,512 13,082 \$ 1,311,157	Total Liabilities	\$	308,866
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Restricted for Specific Purposes Unrestricted  Total Net Assets  \$ 1,119,563 178,512 13,082 \$ 1,311,157	NET ASSETS		
Restricted for Specific Purposes Unrestricted  Total Net Assets  178,512 13,082  \$ 1,311,157		\$	1.119.563
Unrestricted         13,082           Total Net Assets         \$ 1,311,157		Ψ	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$ 1,620,023	Total Net Assets	\$	1,311,157
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$	1,620,023

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

### YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

			<b>BUSINESS-TYPE</b>
			ACTIVITIES
		PROGRAM	NET (EXPENSE)
		REVENUES	<b>REVENUE AND</b>
		CHARGES FOR	CHANGES IN
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	EXPENSES	SERVICES	NET ASSETS
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES			
Utility System	\$ 217,168	\$ 160,961	<b>=</b> \$ (56,207)
GENERAL REVENUES			
Interest and Rents			1,322
Change in Net Assets			\$ (54,885)
NET ASSETS - Beginning of Year			1,366,042
NET ASSETS - End of Year			\$ 1,311,157

# COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31,

	2	2004		2003	
ASSETS					
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash					
Receiving Fund	\$	12,005	\$	11,539	
Operation and Maintenance Fund		48		5,042	
Accounts Receivable		6,895		6,863	
Inventory		3,000		3,000	
Total Current Assets	\$	21,948	\$	26,444	
RESTRICTED ASSETS					
Investments					
Bond and Interest Redemption Fund	\$	15,689	\$	20,597	
Bond Reserve Account		40,266		40,165	
Improvement and Repair Account	1	122,557		102,194	
Total Restricted Assets	\$ 1	178,512	\$	162,956	
CAPITAL ASSETS					
Land and Land Rights	\$	48,084	\$	48,084	
Buildings		40,500		40,500	
Machinery and Equipment	]	102,628		102,628	
Vehicles		24,850		24,850	
Investment in Sewer System	3,2	225,192		3,225,192	
Total	\$ 3,4	441,254	\$	3,441,254	
Less:					
Accumulated Depreciation		021,691		1,935,909	
Net Capital Assets	\$ 1,4	419,563	\$	1,505,345	
Total Assets	\$ 1,6	620,023	\$	1,694,745	

# COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31,

	2004	2003		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	\$ 0	\$	732	
Payroll Withholdings Payable	1,616		1,304	
Accrued Interest Payable	6,250		6,667	
Customer Deposits Payable	1,000		0	
Revenue Bonds Payable - Current Portion	 20,000		20,000	
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 28,866	\$	28,703	
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES				
Revenue Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion	 280,000		300,000	
Total Liabilities	\$ 308,866	\$	328,703	
NET ASSETS				
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	\$ 1,119,563	\$	1,185,345	
Restricted for Specific Purposes	178,512		162,956	
Unrestricted	 13,082		17,741	
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,311,157	\$	1,366,042	
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,620,023	\$	1,694,745	

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

### YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

		2004		2003	
OPERATING REVENUES					
Sewer Charges	\$	160,961	\$	148,786	
Installations		0		8,400	
Late Fees and Other		0		2,343	
	ф	1.60.061	Φ.	150 530	
Total Operating Revenues	\$	160,961	\$	159,529	
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Operation and Maintenance					
Personal Services					
Salaries and Wages	\$	41,304	\$	40,490	
Fringe Benefits					
FICA		3,160		3,098	
Workers' Compensation		1,559		2,024	
SIMPLE Savings Plan		1,177		1,128	
Supplies					
Gas and Oil		3,458		2,715	
Operating Supplies		1,263		1,194	
Other Services and Charges					
Paging Service		131		131	
Telephone		1,279		1,154	
Contracted Services		2,498		3,160	
Insurance and Bonds		8,852		6,935	
Trash Removal		387		369	
Utilities					
Heat		2,537		1,324	
Electric		17,478		15,517	
Equipment Repairs		13,985		3,104	
Automotive Repairs		526		509	
Computer Software		475		435	
Depreciation		85,782		85,256	
Miscellaneous		310		75	
Administration and General					
Personal Services					
Salaries and Wages		9,010		8,832	
FICA		689		676	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

### YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

	2004	2003
Supplies		
Office Supplies	789	154
Postage	1,241	1,295
Other Services and Charges		
Licenses and Permits	1,500	0
Professional Fees	1,623	3,179
Bank Charges	 572	584
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 201,585	\$ 183,338
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (40,624)	\$ (23,809)
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)		
Interest Income	\$ 1,322	\$ 1,062
Interest Expense	 (15,583)	(16,395)
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	\$ (14,261)	\$ (15,333)
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (54,885)	\$ (39,142)
NET ASSETS - Beginning of Year	 1,366,042	1,405,184
NET ASSETS - End of Year	\$ 1,311,157	\$ 1,366,042

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

		2004		2003
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS				
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:				
Cash Received from Customers	\$	160,929	\$	159,088
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	Ψ	(65,326)	Ψ	(48,416)
				, , , ,
Cash Payments to Employees for Services		(50,314)		(49,322)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	45,289	\$	61,350
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:				
Acquisition and Construction of Capital Assets	\$	0	\$	(15,015)
Principal Payments		(20,000)		(15,000)
Interest Expense Paid		(15,583)		(16,395)
Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Capital				
and Related Financing Activities	\$	(35,583)	\$	(46,410)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
Interest Received	\$	1,322	\$	1,062
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	11,028	\$	16,002
<u>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</u> - Beginning of Year		179,537		163,535
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - End of Year	\$	190,565	\$	179,537

# COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

# RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (40,624)	\$ (23,809)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to		
Cash Provided by Operating Activities		
Depreciation	\$ 85,782	\$ 85,256
(Increase) Decrease in Current Assets	,	,
Accounts Receivable	(32)	(441)
Increase (Decrease) in Current Liabilities	` /	` ,
Accounts Payable	(732)	732
Payroll Withholdings Payable	312	(34)
Accrued Interest Payable	(417)	(354)
Customer Deposits Payable	1,000	0
Total Adjustments	\$ 85,913	\$ 85,159
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 45,289	\$ 61,350

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Authority's accounting policies are described below.

In June 1999, the GASB issued Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments*. Certain of the significant changes in the Statement include the following:

A Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section providing an analysis of the Authority's overall financial position and results of operations.

This and other changes are reflected in the accompanying financial statements (including notes to financial statements). The Authority has implemented the provisions of Statement No. 34 effective January 1, 2004.

#### A. Reporting Entity

The Fife Lake Area Utility Authority is a public municipal authority incorporated pursuant to Act 233 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1955, as amended. The Authority was incorporated in 1979 by Fife Lake Township, located in Grand Traverse County, the Village of Fife Lake, located in Grand Traverse County and Springfield Township, located in Kalkaska County. The Authority was formed for the purpose of acquiring, owning, improving, enlarging, extending, and operating a sewage disposal system service within the member municipalities.

The accounting policies of the Authority conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments.

#### **B.** Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

For the year 2004, the Authority adopted GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments*, as amended by GASB Statements No. 37 and No. 38, and applied those standards on a retroactive basis. GASB Statement No. 34 establishes standards for external financial reporting for state and local governments and requires that resources be classified for accounting and reporting purposes into the following three net asset categories.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

Invested in Capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding balances for bonds, notes, and other debt that are attributed to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Restricted net assets result when constraints placed on net asset use are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, and contributions, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

*Unrestricted net assets* consist of net assets which do not meet the definition of the two preceding categories. Unrestricted net assets are often designated, to indicate that management does not consider them to be available for general operations. Unrestricted net assets often have constraints on resources which are imposed by management, but can be modified or removed.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

The government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the Authority as an entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from the activities of the fiscal period. The fund financial statements are similar to the financial statements presented in the previous financial reporting model.

#### C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Basis of Presentation

<u>Proprietary funds</u> are accounted for on the flow of economic resources measurement focus and use the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred. The government applies all applicable FASB pronouncements issued through November 30, 1989 in accounting and reporting for its proprietary operations. Proprietary funds include the following fund type:

<u>Enterprise funds</u> are used to account for those operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business or where the board has decided that the determination of revenues earned, costs incurred and/or net income is necessary for management accountability.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Authority are charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for enterprise funds

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Township's policy to use the restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

#### C. Assets, Liabilities and Equity

#### 1. Deposits and Investments

The Authority's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from date of acquisition.

The Investment Policy adopted by the Authority allows the Treasurer to invest funds in the following:

Certificates of deposit (six months to one year), savings accounts, deposit accounts, or money market accounts of a financial institution insured by an agency of the United States government and that maintains a principal office or branch office located in the state under the laws of this state or the United States.

#### 2. Receivables and Payables

All trade receivables are shown without an allowance for uncollectibles because delinquent amounts attach as a lien against the benefited property which assures their eventual collection.

#### 3. Capital Assets

Capital assets of the Authority are recorded at cost. Capital assets donated to the Authority are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized in proprietary funds as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase is reflected in the capitalized value of the asset constructed, net of interest earned on the invested proceeds over the same period.

Property, plant and equipment are depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings	40	Years
Machinery and Equipment	5-20	Years
Vehicles	10	Years
Investment in Sewer Systems	40	Years

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

The Authority's capitalization policy is to capitalize individual amounts exceeding \$1,000.

#### 4. Long-Term Obligations

The Authority reports long-term debt as a liability in its Proprietary Fund.

#### 5. Inventory

Inventory consist of repair parts and supplies held for consumption. All inventory is reported at the lower of cost or market using the First In/First Out method.

#### II. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

#### A. Budgetary Information

The Authority is required by its bond ordinance to prepare an annual budget. Formal budgetary control is not imposed under State of Michigan laws on proprietary fund types.

#### III. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS AND ACCOUNT GROUPS

#### A. Deposits and Investments

At year-end the carrying amount of the Authority's deposits and investments was \$190,565 and the bank balance was \$192,176. Of the bank balance, \$112,005 was covered by federal depository insurance. The remaining \$80,171 is in accounts which exceed the federal depository insurance and is uncollateralized.

The carrying amount of the Authority's deposits and investments at year-end are shown below:

Citizens Bank	
Kalkaska, Michigan	
Commercial Account	\$ 48
Savings Account	40,266
Money Market Accounts	138,246
Forest Area Federal Credit Union	
Fife Lake, Michigan	
Savings Accounts	 12,005
	\$ 190,565

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### **B.** Capital Assets

A summary of changes in the Authority's capital assets follows:

		Balance			Balance
		December 31,			December 31,
	_	2003	Additions	Deletions	2004
Capital assets:	_				
Land and Land Rights	\$	48,084	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 48,084
Buildings		40,500	0	0	40,500
Machinery and Equipment		102,628	0	0	102,628
Vehicles		24,850	0	0	24,850
Investment in Sewer System	_	3,225,192	0	0	3,225,192
Subtotal	\$	3,441,254	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,441,254
Accumulated depreciation	_	(1,935,909)	(85,782)	0	(2,021,691)
Net capital assets	\$_	1,505,345	\$ (85,782)	\$ 0	\$ 1,419,563

Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2004, amounted to \$85,782.

### C. Long-Term Debt

The following is a summary of the long-term debt transactions of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2004:

	REVENUE BONDS		
Long-Term Debt Payable at January 1, 2004	\$	320,000	
Long-Term Debt Incurred		0	
Long-Term Debt Retired		20,000	
Long-Term Debt Payable at December 31, 2004	\$	300,00	
Due within one year	\$	20,000	

Long-Term Debt at December 31, 2004 is as follows:

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### Revenue Bonds

\$585,000 Sewage Disposal System No. 1 Bonds due in Annual Installments of \$20,000 through August 1, 2019, Interest at 5%

\$ 300,000

The annual requirements to amortize the debt outstanding as of December 31, 2004, including interest payments of \$120,000 are as follows:

YEAR ENDING		
DECEMBER 31,		AMOUNT
2005	\$	35,000
2006		34,000
2007		33,000
2008		32,000
2009		31,000
2010-2019	_	255,000
	\$	420,000

#### IV. OTHER INFORMATION

#### A. Interest Income and Expense

For the year ended December 31, 2004, interest income on deposits and investments was \$1,322 and interest expense on revenue bonds was \$15,583.

#### **B.** Restricted Assets

The \$178,512 restricted assets reported on the balance sheet represents monies required under the bond ordinance for the following:

			Α	MOUNT
ITEM		ACTUAL	RI	EQUIRED
Bond and Interest Redemption Fund	\$	15,689	\$	14,583
Bond Reserve Account		40,266		40,000
Improvement and Repair Account	_	122,557		0
	\$_	178,512	\$	54,583

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### C. Risk Management

The Authority is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. The Authority participates in a pool of municipalities with the State of Michigan for self-insuring property and casualty, crime, general liability and errors and omissions insurance. The Authority pays annual premiums to the pool for the respective insurance coverage. In the event the pool's total claims and expenses for a policy year exceed the total normal annual premiums for said years, all members of the specific pool's policy year may be subject to special assessments to make up the deficiency. The Authority has not been informed of any special assessments being required for the current year or the three prior years.

Also, the Authority carries workers compensation insurance with the Accident Fund of Michigan. Settled claims for this coverage have not exceeded premium costs in any year to date.

#### D. Retirement Plan

Effective July 1, 1998, the Authority established a SIMPLE I.R.A. Plan. The Plan was established with Citizens Bank, Manton, Michigan. The Plan covers all employees who meet eligibility requirements based on annual compensation.

Each employee who is eligible to enroll in the Plan may set aside a percentage of his or her pay into the Plan (elective deferrals). The Authority is to make matching contributions equal to employee elective deferrals up to a maximum of 3% of compensation.

The individual retirement account balances become the property of the employee immediately. Therefore, there are no plan assets or liabilities which are includible as part of the Authority's reporting entity.

For the year ended December 31, 2004, covered wages for those participating in the Plan were \$39,232 and total wages for all employees including non-covered payroll were \$50,314. For 2004, contributions to the Plan by employees amounted to \$1,177 and the Authority also contributed \$1,177.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM NO.1 STATEMENT OF BONDS PAYABLE

### **DECEMBER 31, 2004**

NAME OF ISSUE	Fife Lake Area Utility Authority Sewage Disposal System No. 1 Bonds				
DATE OF ISSUE	February 1, 198	30			
<u>PURPOSE</u>	To finance a portion of the cost acquiring and constructing a sewage disposal system to service the township of Fife Lake, The Village of Fife Lake and the Township of Springfield.				
INTEREST PAYABLE	February 1, and	l August 1, of e	ach year		
INTEREST RATE	5%				
AMOUNT OF ISSUE			\$ 585,000		
AMOUNT REDEEMED Prior Years Current Year		\$ 265,000 20,000	285,000		
BALANCE OUTSTANDING - December 31, 2004			\$ 300,000		
	REQUIREMENTS				
<u>DUE DATES</u>	PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	TOTAL		
February 1, 2005		\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500		

August 1, 2005

August 1, 2006

August 1, 2007

February 1, 2007

February 1, 2006

\$

20,000

20,000

20,000

7,500

7,000

7,000

6,500

6,500

27,500

7,000

27,000

6,500

26,500

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM NO.1 STATEMENT OF BONDS PAYABLE

### <u>DECEMBER 31, 2004</u>

|--|

DITE DATEC	DDINCIDAL	NTEDECT	TOTAL
<u>DUE DATES</u>	PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	TOTAL
February 1, 2008		6,000	6,000
August 1, 2008	20,000	6,000	26,000
February 1, 2009		5,500	5,500
August 1, 2009	20,000	5,500	25,500
February 1, 2010		5,000	5,000
August 1, 2010	20,000	5,000	25,000
February 1, 2011		4,500	4,500
August 1, 2011	20,000	4,500	24,500
February 1, 2012		4,000	4,000
August 1, 2012	20,000	4,000	24,000
February 1, 2013		3,500	3,500
August 1, 2013	20,000	3,500	23,500
February 1, 2014		3,000	3,000
August 1, 2014	20,000	3,000	23,000
February 1, 2015		2,500	2,500
August 1, 2015	20,000	2,500	22,500
February 1, 2016		2,000	2,000
August 1, 2016	20,000	2,000	22,000
February 1, 2017		1,500	1,500
August 1, 2017	20,000	1,500	21,500
February 1, 2018		1,000	1,000
August 1, 2018	20,000	1,000	21,000
February 1, 2019		500	500
August 1, 2019	20,000	500	20,500
	\$ 300,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 420,000

### **EARLY REDEMPTION**

Bonds maturing in the years 1981 to 1993, inclusive, shall not be subject to redemption prior to maturity.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM NO.1 STATEMENT OF BONDS PAYABLE

#### **DECEMBER 31, 2004**

Bonds maturing in the years 1994 to 2019, inclusive, will be subject to redemption prior to maturity, in inverse numerical order, at the option of the Authority on any one or more interest payment dates on or after August 1, 1993, at the par value thereof and accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

Notice of redemption shall be given to the holders of the Bonds to be redeemed by publication of such notice not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for redemption, at least once in a newspaper or publication circulated in Michigan, which carries as a part of its regular service, notices of the sale of municipal bonds. In the case of registered bonds, (unless registered to "Bearer") thirty (30) days' notice shall be given by mail to the registered holder at the registered address and no publication shall be necessary. Bonds so called for redemption shall not bear interest after the date fixed for redemption, provided funds are on hand with the paying agent to redeem the same.

The principal of said Bonds and the interest thereon shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America; at a bank or trust company to be designated by the purchaser of the bonds, upon presentation and surrender of said Bonds, or if registered, to the registered holder at the address shown on the registration books of the Authority.

134 WEST HARRIS STREET CADILLAC, MICHIGAN 49601 231-775-9789 FAX: 231-775-9749

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SCOTT A. HUNTER., C.P.A.

JONATHAN E. DAMHOF, C.P.A.

# Baird, Cotter and Bishop, P.C.

#### CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

August 26, 2005

#### LETTER OF REPORTABLE CONDITIONS

To the Board of Commissioners Fife Lake Area Utility Authority Fife Lake, Michigan

In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority, Fife Lake, Michigan for the year ended December 31, 2004, we considered its internal control structure in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure. However, we noted certain matters that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the organization's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the basic financial statements.

The relatively small number of people involved in the accounting functions of the Authority makes it difficult to adequately segregate duties. Segregation of accounting duties is a fundamental method of strengthening internal control. However, in deciding what internal control procedures should be implemented, management must consider the costs of implementing them and weigh those costs against the benefits to be derived from their implementation.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. However, we believe that the condition described above is a material weakness.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Commissioners and others within the organization. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of the report, which is a matter of public record.

Very truly yours,

BAIRD, COTTER AND BISHOP, P.C.

Baird, Cotte & Bishop, P.C

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## Baird, Cotter and Bishop, P.C.

#### CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

August 26, 2005

#### LETTER OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Board of Commissioners Fife Lake Area Utility Authority Fife Lake, Michigan

As a result of our audit of the financial statements of the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority for the year ended December 31, 2004, we would like to take this opportunity to comment on the following items relative to the management and accounting procedures of the Authority.

#### Reportable Condition in Internal Controls

In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the Fife Lake Area Utility Authority for the year ended December 31, 2004, we considered its internal control structure in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements.

Certain matters considered to be reportable conditions in internal controls were noted. We are issuing a separate letter (letter of reportable conditions) which addresses those items noted.

#### Early Payoff of Bonds

The Authority is currently paying 5% on its outstanding bonds. With the availability of cash reserves of approximately \$125,000, the Authority should consider paying off some of the debt ahead of schedule. The bond resolution allows early payoff of bonds maturing after 1993. With current low investment rates, and a payoff of \$60,000 the Authority could save \$1,800 to \$2,000 per year in interest expense. We recommend the Authority consider an early payoff of its debt.

#### Accounting Records

Once again the accounting records were found to be in excellent condition and in accordance with the State of Michigan Uniform Chart of Accounts. We commend the outgoing treasurer for a job well done.

We would like to thank the board for its continued confidence in our firm and to thank the Authority personnel for their cooperation.

If you have any questions relative to the above items or other areas of your annual accounting, please feel free to call on us.

Very truly yours,

BAIRD, COTTER AND BISHOP, P.C.